

**Town of Groton  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2010  
7:00pm**

**In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Kyle Andrews, Christina McClay, Pamela Hamel (AA)**

**Audience Members Present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and read the appointments and announcements.

**Miles made a motion to approve the March 30 minutes as written, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Old Business:**

Last week the Board reported on revenues received to date in comparison to last year. This week, Miles gave a summary of the year-to-date expenditures including anticipated expenditures in comparison to last year. Based upon the numbers, the Board feels the Town will have sufficient revenue to cover this year's increase in expenditures. Several bills have been submitted to the Town for payment. Some have due dates at the end of the month. These will be paid at that time. **Kyle made a motion to pay the school bill and the Town of Hebron 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Fire/Ems payment, delaying payment of other bills until possibly the following week, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Christina reported that Groton pays the same as Bristol for their Special Operations Unit (SOU) contract. The Board asked Chief Dickerson to report on the SOU. The Chief met with the Grafton County Police Chiefs in Lincoln today to discuss the Central NH SOU (CNHSOU). Many were concerned that the Unit has geographically spread out too far, even to south of Concord. At this time they feel it would be better if the Grafton County Sheriff's Department take the lead and develop their own SOU. There are several experienced local officers currently on the CNHSOU who could be a part of this new unit. At this time no definite decisions have been made. The Chief encouraged the Board to delay the \$2,600 payment to the CNHSOU in light of these current developments. The Board asked if services would still be available should they be required in the meantime. Chief Dickerson advised the Board that the CNHSOU is still functioning and would respond. However, if the Town is not a member they will pay on a per call basis. One call could feasibly amount to more than the annual dues. The Board would like Chief Dickerson to follow up on this. Chief Dickerson will be reporting back to the Board in the next few weeks. **Miles made a motion to table this until the Chief can give further updates, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Pam was able to speak with the three former Selectmen who were serving in 2003 when the Planning Board drafted the new building permit guidelines. All three agreed that the intent was to require permits for construction that increased the footprint, not for renovations/alterations. These would be reported on the annual inventory. Former Selectman Steve Pilcher said they would not have required a building permit for the work Ken Martell did. At this time the Board wants to follow the original intent behind the guidelines. **Miles made a motion to refund Mr. Martell's \$10, and for the Board to look to draft appropriate language in the guidelines to present to the Town for comment/ratification, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

In an attempt to locate a better plan for Town phone service, Pam contacted the following three providers:

- Vonage: Cable hook-up only thus eliminating usage by the Transfer Station, Town Garage and Town House security system. One free fax line, additional line is \$44.99 per month.
- Vocalocity: Cable hook-up only and paperless fax only, which requires the scanning of documents. Expensive set up and usage.

- Spot Talk: Does not allow for faxing and is a long distance only carrier. Must use access code each time a call is made.

The Advantage and Business Choice plans offered by FairPoint will reduce the current long distance bill and allow all Town phones to be on the same system. **Kyle made a motion to stay with FairPoint and change the current plan to Advantage and Business Choice, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to sign the letters to Mr. Rego and Douglas & Sandra Hutchins, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Under state statute their current junkyard licenses have been extended to July 1.

The Planning Board voted that T-Mobile will not have to come before them for Site Plan Review for adding two (2) antennas to the current tower on Tenney Mountain. Although the Planning Board has referred the matter to the Zoning Board (ZBA), as the plans indicate the addition of a cement slab and small refrigerator sized cabinets, the ZBA does not believe T-Mobile needs to come before them as the additional antennas will not add height to the existing tower and the cabinets will be located within the existing structure. After reviewing the plans the Board would like Pam to contact the T-Mobile representative to clarify, in detail, exactly what they are adding. **Kyle made a motion to table this until next week, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Bill Grimes, representing the Spectacle Pond Association (SPA), addressed the Board. He apologized that there was a breakdown in communication concerning the SPA's Emergency Operations Plan. The Association had spoken with the Town's Emergency Management Director, Mike Lemieux, who gave his approval to the plan. However, each had thought the other was going to speak with the Board. The State is requiring the SPA to submit an emergency plan in the event there is a breach in the dam at the pond. Hebron also has a role in the plan, which they have agreed to. The SPA would like the Town to consider endorsing it as well. Miles said the Board has some concerns as the current plan involves the Road Agent, Police Department, Town employees and Town property. They would need to meet with the Association and Mike Lemieux to discuss it. They would also like to get input from the Town's attorney or LGC regarding their liability. **Miles made a motion to set up a work session with Mike Lemieux or meet with him during a regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Town's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), adopted in November of 2009, requires that all new Board members review the plan by the end of the June following the election. Christina would like Pam to email a copy to her.

More details are required in the EOP under the Continuation of Operations Plan. This would be very specific to how Groton will respond in the case of an emergency. The Board would like Pam to ask Mike Lemieux if he has been able to secure any sample plans that they can work from.

The new vacuum does not have the power necessary to pick up the sand that gets tracked into the Town House. The Board will look into finding something better. **Kyle made a motion to return the vacuum, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle made a motion to table signing the Meredith Village Savings Bank signature cards, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Part of signing the card is determining the authority of each signer. The Board would like to take some time to consider the options.

The Old Home Day Fund is currently set up as a regular checking account. The Town's Accountant, John Lyford, informed the Board that the warrant article established that account as an expendable trust account which would fall under the oversight of the Trustees. The Board would like Pam to contact Mr. Lyford to find a practical way to transfer that account to the Trustees.

Ed Cherian from Groton Wind LLC has asked the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Zoning Board if they are willing to write letters of support for the wind project. **Miles made a motion to draft a proposed letter of support for Groton Wind LLC for the Board's review, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Pam will forward Mr. Cherian's request to the other Boards.

The Town received a past due bill from Amerigas for propane for the generator. Pam reported that, to date, they have not received any invoices and she was under the impression that they were not on an automatic delivery schedule. The Board would like her to contact Amerigas to clarify the situation.

Pam Yinger reported that she has seen something that resembles a blue tarp at the water's edge behind her property. She also said she has seen boats leaving the storage area. The Board would like to review the cease and desist order sent to Mr. Robertie and Mr. Sewall last fall. Kyle said Mr. Robertie, accompanied by Alan Barnard, met with the Planning Board last fall to find out what he needed to prepare for Site Plan Review. He has not been back. The Board feels the Planning Board should contact Mr. Robertie to find out what his intentions are.

**Miles made a motion to go into a non public session at 8:45pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to go back into public session at 9:22pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to seal the non public minutes, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted**

**Miles made a motion to adjourn at 9:24pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant